

Project Proposal

Proposal Title: Beef Basin Desperation (Sagebrush Seeding)

Proposal Number: 1517

DWR Region: Southeastern Region

Lead Agency: DWR

County: San Juan

Project Manager: Leroy Mead

PM Phone: 4356133718

Regional Priority: High

Project Type: Terrestrial Habitat

Proposed Start Date: 11/15/2009

Project Location: Beef Basin

Project Description: Aerially seed 640 acres of formerly sagebrush parklands with sagebrush seed.

Description of Problem/Need: Beef Basin is an important winter range for mule deer which summer on Elk Ridge. Beef Basin is surrounded by Cataract Canyon and the Colorado River on the west and Canyonlands National Park to the North and East. This rugged topography prohibits mule deer from wintering elsewhere and makes the sagebrush parks of Beef Basin an indispensable winter range. Unfortunately, the sagebrush there is in drastic decline and cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*) is on the increase. Due to the large amount of archaeological resources in the area, ground scarification for a seed bed is not an option, according to the land management agency. This project is a continued attempt to establish sagebrush seedlings on 640 acres without disturbing the archaeological resources.

Objectives: Re-establish sagebrush in Beef Basin.

Relevance to Strategic Plans: The BLM Resource Management Plan identifies Beef Basin as essential winter range for mule deer.

Potential Risks: Cheatgrass may outcompete sagebrush seedlings.

Proposed Methods: Contract an airplane to aerially broadcast sagebrush seed over 640 acres within Beef Basin and visually monitor it to assess success.

Shapefile Name: 1517

Seed Source: GBRC

UPCD Reg Team Coord Date:

Proposed NEPA Action:

Proposed Arch Action:

☒ **Vegetation Monitoring** ☐ **Wildlife Monitoring**

Monitoring Information: Spring-time visual assessment to monitor project's success.

Grazing Management: BLM Winter cattle allotment owned by The Nature Conservancy, and grazed by Heidi Redd, Dugout Ranch.

SPECIES BENEFITING

Mule Deer

LAND OWNERSHIP

Owner	Acres
BLM	640
Total	640

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PROPOSED FUNDING

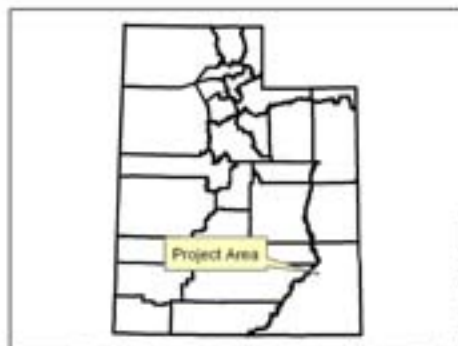
Source	Amount Requested	Date Approved	Amount Approved
Unfunded Balance	\$36,000.00		\$0.00
Totals	\$36,000.00		\$0.00

PROPOSED BUDGET

Item	Description	DWR Account	Partner Contrib.
Contractual Services	Airplane/Pilot	\$17,000.00	\$0.00
Seed (GBRC)	Sagebrush Seed/rice hulls	\$17,500.00	\$0.00
Motor Pool	Mileage	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Materials and Supplies	Misc. emergency	\$500.00	\$0.00
	Totals	\$36,000.00	\$0.00

Project Map:

Beef Basin Sagebrush Propagation Proposed Project Area



1:500,000